

DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

Release Date: January 16, 2009 **Release Number:** WA 11631-02 **Contact:** Richard Jenkins **Phone:** (916) 735-1500

SBA to Open Disaster Loan Outreach Center in King County

Sacramento, CA – Nancy Porzio, Director of the U. S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Seattle District office, announced today that SBA will open a Disaster Loan Outreach Center (DLOC) in Black Diamond to provide personal service to small businesses economically impacted by the closure of State Route 169 Kummer Bridge across the Green River.

SBA will open the DLOC Tuesday, January 20 at 8:30 am. "SBA customer service representatives will be on hand to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each business owner complete their application," Porzio said. The center will be open on the days and times below. No appointment is necessary.

KING COUNTY

Black Diamond Public Works Bldg. 24301 Roberts Drive Black Diamond, WA

Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 am to 12:30 am January 20 through January 30

SBA acted on a request from Governor Gregoire for a disaster declaration due to the Kummer Bridge closure. SBA's disaster declaration covers King County and the surrounding counties of Chelan, Kitsap, Kittitas, Pierce, Snohomish and Yakima.

SBA is offering low-interest disaster loans up to \$2 million to help small businesses and most, private, non-profit organizations meet financial needs caused by the bridge closure. These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can't be paid because of the bridge closure. The interest rate on these working capital loans is 4 percent with terms up to 30 years.

Disaster loan information and application forms are also available from SBA's Customer Service Center by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955, emailing <u>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</u>, or visiting SBA's Web site at <u>www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance</u>. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

Applicants may also apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure Web site at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela.

The deadline to apply for these loans is **October 13, 2009**.